

## SOFTWARE PROTECTION SYSTEM

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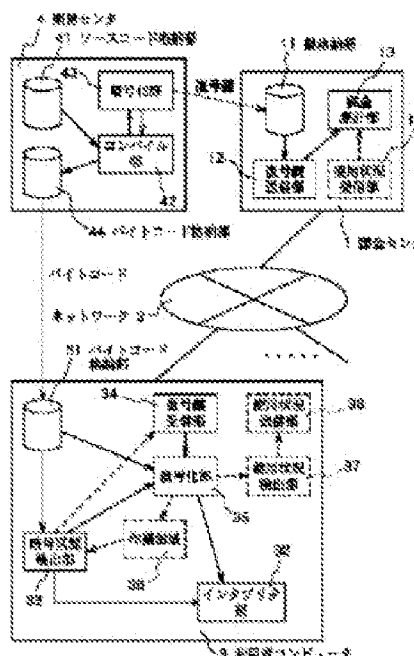
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### Abstract of JP10161864

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To provide a software protection system which can collect the rental of software in response to its using frequency by noticing the using function of the software and also can prevent illegal copies.

**SOLUTION:** The byte code that is obtained by compiling a source code is distributed to a user computer 3, and the computer 3 interprets the received byte code by an interpreter. In such a system, a charging center 1 connected to a network 2 is provided to cipher a part of the byte code as a cipher section and to hold a decoding key corresponding to the cipher section. The computer 3 includes a decoding key receiving part 34 which receives the decoding key from the center 1, a cipher section detection part 33 which detects the start and end of the cipher section in the distributed byte code, a decoding part 35 which decodes the byte code within the cipher section by means of the decoding key, and an interpret part 32 which interprets the decoded byte code.



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